(*b*) and (*c*) Yes ; except one which was found to be out of the way and difficult of access.

(*d*) It was found unsuitable to hold the Office of the Assistant Devaswom Commissioner and the Excise Division and the Range Offices, Trivandrum.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know why in the face of the answer to part (*d*) this building was selected for the location of the office of the Curator ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : The building was found unsuitable for the office of the Assistant Devaswom Commissioner and the Excise Division and Range Offices. But it was found suitable for the Curator's office and so it was selected.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know the amount of rent that is being paid ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Rs. 25 per mensem.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know the amount of rent for the buildings that were offered ?

RAO BAHADUR RAJYASEVANIRATA DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Rs. 30, Rs. 30, Rs. 20, Rs. 35 and Rs. 35 respectively for the first five buildings ; no rent was specified for the sixth ; and Rs. 25 was demanded for the seventh which has been selected.

Valliyarappancodu Estate road.

7. ***MR. S. J. NAIR** (*Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether there is any representation for the construction of the Valliyarappancodu Estate road ;

(*b*) whether Mr. Thommen Joseph and the inhabitants of the Pullampara, Manikal, Vembayam and Anadu *pakuthies* have already constructed a village road from Tembammoodu to a distance of about five miles ; and

(*c*) whether the Government are aware that the construction and extension of the above road would connect the Anadu-Venjaramoodu road at Tembankalai and Nedumangad-Vembayam road at Tannimoodu ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Only one and a half miles have been improved by the owner of the estate.

(*c*) Yes.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*) : May I know what action has been taken on the representation referred to in part (*a*) of the question ?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*) : Government orders are that the improvements to the road etc. are to be taken up only after the people have done their portion according to the Ryots Road Rules.

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MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): May I know whether the Government are aware that the road in question has already been partly constructed under the Ryots Road Rules by the people themselves?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): No, Sir.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Is there not a provision to say that whenever there is necessity for certain roads to be constructed by the people, the Government must view with sympathy the work that has to be carried out by the latter.

PRESIDENT: Is it the honourable member's interpretation that the rules regarding the ryots road should be viewed with sympathy by Government?

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): My question is this. Is it not the duty of the P. W. D. to consider about construction of the road and not wait until the rules are carried out by the people themselves?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): There are certain definite rules on the subject, and those rules have to be carried out.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Do Government think that they are necessary rules?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): It is a matter of opinion. Government do not make unnecessary rules.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Then may I know whether the Government would take up the construction of useful roads?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): Government do not take up any other than useful roads.

MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Then may I know why this useful road has not been taken up for construction?

MR. G. B. E. TRUSCOTT (*Chief Engineer, Roads, Buildings and Irrigation*): There are more important roads waiting for provision of funds.

Plumbago Powder.

8. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) how many tons or cwts. of plumbago powder are required for the use of the foundry work in the P. W. D. Workshop at Trivandrum;

(*b*) whether the plumbago powder is being obtained from contractors;

(*c*) whether the order for the powder is given on contract;

(*d*) whether tenders are being called for, for the giving of the said contract;

(*e*) from where the powder is being got down or purchased at present;

(*f*) whether Travancoreans have offered to supply the powder from Travancore;

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